

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT



Office of Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CARL L. GROMEK NAMED STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR BY SUPREME COURT

LANSING, MI, December 14, 2004 – Attorney Carl L. Gromek of Lansing, who has served as Chief of Staff of the Michigan Supreme Court for the past four years, will also serve as State Court Administrator starting January 3, 2005, the Michigan Supreme Court announced today.

The Court voted 6-1 to appoint Gromek to the position. Justice Elizabeth A. Weaver dissents.

Representatives of the Michigan Judges Association, Michigan Probate Judges Association, and Michigan District Court Judges Association participated in the selection process for a new State Court Administrator.

Wayne County Probate Judge Freddie G. Burton, Jr. who represented the Michigan Probate Judges Association in the process, said “We are very pleased with the final product of the search and the selection of Carl Gromek as the State Court Administrator. We are also very pleased that the State Court Administrator’s position is being merged with that of Supreme Court Chief of Staff. We look forward to working with Mr. Gromek as he goes forward in these dual duties.”

Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green of the 34th District Court, who represented the District Court Judges Association in the selection process, agreed. “The position of State Court Administrator is obviously one of tremendous responsibility,” she said. “The choice of Mr. Gromek is a wise one and will, we believe, reap future benefits for Michigan’s justice system.”

Gromek will head the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO), the administrative arm of the Michigan Supreme Court. He will also continue to serve as the Court’s Chief of Staff, said Chief Justice Maura D. Corrigan.

“The State Court Administrator must be a consummate manager, someone who is well versed in every aspect of administration, from budget issues to technology to human resource matters,” said Corrigan. “Mr. Gromek has demonstrated, over a period of many years and in various positions of great responsibility, that he has a genius for administration. He has amply justified the high confidence that this Court and the Court of Appeals have placed in him over the years. And indeed, as Chief of Staff, he has already made many improvements to the administration of Michigan’s justice system.”

Corrigan also thanked State Court Administrator John D. Ferry, who is stepping down at the end of the year.

“For seven years, Mr. Ferry has served the trial courts of this state faithfully and well,” Corrigan said. “The Court thanks him for his dedication and his efforts to improve the administration of justice in Michigan, and we wish him all the best.”

In addition to his Chief of Staff duties, Gromek will oversee administration of Michigan’s 244 trial courts. His responsibilities will include supervising SCAO’s four regional offices and all divisions of SCAO, including the Friend of the Court Bureau, Child Welfare Services, Office of Dispute Resolution, Judicial Information Systems, and Michigan Judicial Institute.

As Chief of Staff, Gromek supervises the Court’s operational activities, including the Clerk’s Office, Commissioners’ Office, and offices of Human Resources, Finance, Security, and Public Information. He has served in that position since February 2001.

From 1998 to 2001, Gromek served as Chief Clerk and Research Director of the Michigan Court of Appeals, where he was responsible for a staff of 80 research attorneys. He also directed the Court of Appeals Clerk’s offices, which processed over 7,000 filings each year. From 1988 to 1998, Gromek was the Court of Appeals’ Research Director.

From 1976 to 1988, Gromek was the managing partner of the Detroit law firm of Gromek, Bendure & Thomas. He was responsible for personnel, systems, and client development of the 12-attorney firm. From 1974 to 1976, Gromek was a research attorney and judicial clerk at the Michigan Court of Appeals.

Gromek’s publications include the Michigan Appellate Handbook, a 500-page manual recognized as the state’s leading authority on appellate practice. He has served as an instructor for numerous organizations and law schools, including the State Bar of Michigan, Institute of Continuing Legal Education, University of Detroit Mercy Law School, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, and Michigan State University Detroit College of Law.

Gromek received his law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy Law School, where he was associate editor of the Law Review and director of the Moot Court Board. He graduated with a degree in business from Florida State University, where he was an Academic All-American Baseball Player.

Gromek resides in Lansing with his wife Maureen and their three sons.

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